

**Testimony for Public Hearing
Appropriations Committee**

February 21, 2017

Kristen & John Hannigan III

117 Lincoln Street,

Hamden, CT 06518

Good afternoon Senator Catherine Osten, Senator Paul Formica, and Representative Toni Walker:

Our eight year old son, Jack Hannigan, is currently a third grader at Wintergreen Interdistrict Magnet School. Wintergreen is very important to our family as it has provided an excellent learning environment for our son. The specialized classes offered daily have afforded him the opportunity to explore his artistic side, learn a second language, and discover his talent for playing the violin. It has also provided us with an alternative choice to our neighborhood elementary school.

We asked Jack why Wintergreen is important to him. Without hesitation, he replied “his teachers”. “They are caring, respectful, and keep us safe.” We

echo our son's sentiments that the teachers and staff are an invaluable asset to Wintergreen. They offer a meaningful education to the unique, diverse and inquisitive students who make up the Wintergreen community.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Kristen & John Hannigan III